

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1 1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for resolving host  
2 names on a network, comprising:  
3 receiving at a modem a host name query from a client  
4 computer;  
5 transmitting said host name query from said  
6 modem to a plurality of known Domain Name System (DNS) servers  
7 set up in the modem; and  
8 returning a single address to said client computer from said  
9 modem, where said single address is based on said host name  
10 query and any responses received from said DNS servers.

1 2. (Currently Amended) ~~The A computer implemented method of claim 1,~~  
2 ~~wherein said return further comprises:~~ for resolving host names on a network,  
3 comprising:  
4 receiving at a modem a host name query from a client  
5 computer;  
6 transmitting said host name query from said  
7 modem to a plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers; and  
8 returning a single address to said client computer from said  
9 modem, where said single address is based on said host name  
10 query and any responses received from said DNS servers, said returning step 11  
11 comprising,  
12 acquiring a plurality of addresses associated with  
13 said host name query, from said DNS servers;  
14 applying a policy to eliminate all but one of said addresses; and  
15 returning said address to said client computer, such that said  
16 client can send a request for content to said address.

1 3. (Cancelled)

1 4. (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method  
2 for resolving host names on a network,  
3 comprising:  
4 receiving at a modem a host name query from a client computer;  
5 transmitting said host name query from said modem to a plurality of  
6 Domain Name System (DNS) servers;  
7 acquiring at least one address associated with said host name query,  
8 from said DNS servers;  
9 determining that a plurality of addresses was acquired from said DNS 10  
11 servers;  
12 eliminating all but one of said address by rejecting all but the most  
recent address; and

13                    returning said address to said client computer, such that said client can 14  
send a request for content to said address.

1    5.        (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method  
2    for resolving host names on a network,  
3    comprising:  
4                receiving at a modem a host name query from a client computer;  
5                transmitting said host name query from said modem to a plurality of  
6    Domain Name System (DNS) servers;  
7                acquiring at least one address associated with said host name query,  
8    from said DNS servers;  
9                determining that a plurality of addresses was acquired from said DNS 10  
servers;  
11                eliminating all but one of said address by rejecting all addresses not  
12    provided by a service provider DNS server; and  
13                returning said address to said client computer, such that said client can 14  
send a request for content to said address.

1    6.        (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ computer implemented method ~~of claim 1, for~~  
2    resolving host names on a network, comprising:  
3                receiving at a modem a host name query from a client  
4    computer;  
5                transmitting said host name query from said  
6    modem to a plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers; and  
7                returning a single address to said client computer from said  
8    modem, where said single address is based on said host name  
9    query and any responses received from said DNS servers, wherein said  
10 returning step further comprises:  
11                determining that a host has not been located by said DNS  
12    servers;  
13                performing a search using said host name query as a search  
14    string; and  
15                transmitting a results address of where results of said search  
16    are located, to said client computer.

1    7.        (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 6, wherein said  
2    performing further comprises sending said host name query as a search  
3    string to a search engine.

1    8.        (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 7, wherein said  
2    sending further comprises sending said host name query as a search string to a  
3    search engine selected by a service provider.

1    9.        (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 7, wherein said  
2    sending step further comprises sending said host name query as a search string to a

3 search engine selected by a system administrator.

1 10. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein  
2 prior to transmitting said host name query, the method further comprising:  
3 searching a cache for an address associated with said host  
4 name query; and  
5 if located, returning a located address to said client, such that said  
6 client computer can send a request for content to said address.

1 11. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein  
2 prior to transmitting said host name query, the method further  
3 comprising:  
4 searching a cache based on said host name query; and  
5 if cached content associated with said host name query is  
6 located, returning said cached content  
7 to said client computer, such that said client can display said content.

1 12. (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein said  
2 modem is coupled to a VPN (Virtual Private Network), and at least one of said  
3 plurality of DNS servers forms part of the VPN.

1 13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for resolving host names  
2 on a Virtual Private Network (VPN), the computer program product comprising a  
3 computer readable storage and a computer program embedded therein, the computer  
4 program comprising:  
5 instructions for receiving a host name query from a client  
6 computer;  
7 instructions for transmitting said host name  
8 query to a plurality of known Domain Name System (DNS) servers set up in  
9 the modem; and  
10 instructions for returning a single address to said client  
11 computer; where said single address is based on said host name  
12 query and any responses received from said DNS servers.

1 14. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ computer program product ~~of claim 13, for~~  
2 resolving host names on a Virtual Private Network (VPN), the computer  
3 program product comprising a computer readable storage and a computer  
4 program embedded therein, the computer program comprising:  
5 instructions for receiving a host name query from a client  
6 computer;  
7 instructions for transmitting said host name  
8 query to a plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers set up in the  
9 modem; and  
10 instructions for returning a single address to said client  
11 computer; where said single address is based on said host name  
12 query and any responses received from said DNS servers, wherein

13 said instructions for returning ~~further~~ comprise:  
14 instructions for acquiring at least one address associated with  
15 said host name query, from said DNS servers;  
16 instructions for determining that a plurality of addresses was  
17 acquired from said DNS servers;  
18 instructions for eliminating all but one of said addresses; and  
19 instructions for returning said address to said client computer,  
20 such that said client can send a request for content to said address.

1 15. (Cancelled)

1 16. (Previously Presented) A computer program product  
2 for resolving host names on a Virtual Private Network (VPN), the computer  
3 program product comprising a computer readable storage and a computer program  
4 embedded therein, the computer program comprising:  
5 instructions for receiving a host name query from a client computer;  
6 instructions for transmitting said host name query to a plurality of  
7 Domain Name System (DNS) servers;  
8 instructions for acquiring at least one address associated with said host 9  
name query, from said DNS servers;  
10 instructions for determining that a plurality of addresses was acquired 11  
from said DNS servers;  
12 instructions for eliminating all but one of said addresses  
13 by rejecting all but the most recent address; and  
14 instructions for returning said address to said client computer, such that 15  
said client can send a request for content to said address.

1 17. (Previously Presented) A computer program product  
2 for resolving host names on a Virtual Private Network (VPN), the computer  
3 program product comprising a computer readable storage and a computer program  
4 embedded therein, the computer program comprising:  
5 instructions for receiving a host name query from a client computer;  
6 instructions for transmitting said host name query to a plurality of  
7 Domain Name System (DNS) servers;  
8 instructions for acquiring at least one address associated with said host 9  
name query, from said DNS servers;  
10 instructions for determining that a plurality of addresses was acquired 11  
from said DNS servers;  
12 instructions for eliminating all but one of said addresses  
13 by rejecting all addresses not provided by a service provider  
14 DNS server; and  
15 instructions for returning said address to said client computer, such that 16  
said client can send a request for content to said address.

1 18. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for resolving host

2 names, the computer program product comprising a computer readable storage and a 3  
computer program embedded therein, the computer program comprising:  
4 instructions for receiving a host name query from a client computer;  
5 instructions for ~~simultaneously~~ transmitting said host name query to a 6  
plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers;  
7 instructions for determining whether a host has been located  
8 by said DNS servers;  
9 if a host is located, instructions for returning an address for the host to 10  
said client computer;  
11 if a host is not located, instructions for performing a search using said 12  
host name query as a search string; and  
13 instructions for transmitting an address of where results of said  
14 search can be viewed to said client computer.

1 19. (Original) The computer program product of claim 18, wherein said  
2 instructions for performing comprise instructions for sending said host name query as  
3 a search string to a search engine.

1 20. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein said  
2 instructions for sending further comprise instructions for sending said host name  
3 query as a search string to a search engine selected by a service provider.

1 21. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein said  
2 instructions for sending further comprise instructions for sending said host name  
3 query as a search string to a search engine selected by a system administrator.

1 22. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said  
2 instructions for returning step further comprise:  
3 instructions for searching a cache for an address associated  
4 with said host name query; and  
5 instructions for returning a located address to said client, such  
6 that said client computer can send a request for content to said  
7 address.

1 23. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said  
2 instructions for returning further comprise:  
3 instructions for searching a cache based on said host name  
4 query;  
5 instructions for returning cached content associated with said  
6 host name query to said client computer, such that said client can  
7 display said content.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein  
2 at least one of said plurality of DNS servers forms part of the VPN.

1 25. (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method for resolving host

2 names on a network, comprising:  
3 receiving at a modem a host name query from a client computer;  
4 transmitting said host name query from said modem to a plurality of  
5 Domain Name System (DNS) servers;  
6 determining whether a host has not been located by said DNS  
7 servers;  
8 if a host is located, returning at least one address for the host to  
9 said client computer;  
10 if a host is not located, performing a search using said host name query 11  
as a search string and returning a results address of where results of said  
12 search are located to said client computer.

1 26. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented method of claim 25,  
2 wherein said performing further comprises sending said host name query as a search  
3 string to a search engine.

1 27. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented method of claim 25,  
2 wherein if a plurality of hosts associated with said host name query are returned from 3 said  
DNS servers;  
4 applying a policy to eliminate all but one of said hosts; and  
5 returning an address for said one host to said client computer, such that 6  
said client can send a request for content to said address.